

and Staff was subsequently selected for the U.S. Atlantic Fleet's Navigation award for 1992. Transferring in March 1993, he reported to the Chief of Naval Operations for Air Warfare as Head, Aviation Manpower, Undergraduate Flight Training and Trainer Aircraft sections. In September 1994, Captain Snodgrass reported as Commander, Fighter Wing, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. Under his command, TOMCAT precision strike and single citing of the entire community as NAS Oceana became a reality. His tour as Commodore ended with a Change of Command in January 1997. In February 1997, Captain Snodgrass relocated to Washington, DC, as Director, Navy Liaison, U.S. House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, Dale Snodgrass has made many sacrifices during his 26 year naval career. Dale has spent a significant amount of time away from his family to support the vital role our naval forces play in ensuring the security of our great Nation. Captain Snodgrass, a great credit to the U.S. Navy and the country he so proudly served, will retire on 23 March 1999 and move to St. Augustine, Florida. As he now prepares to depart the Navy for new challenges ahead, I call upon my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to wish him every success, as well as fair winds and following seas, always.

#### TRIBUTE TO CAROL FOREST

#### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 23, 1999*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Carol Forest, an extraordinary citizen of San Mateo County, California, who will be inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame of Friday, March 26, 1999.

Carol Forest has spent more than thirty years in education and has dedicated herself to alternative education. She was instrumental in the establishment of the Jefferson Union High School District's GED Center in 1986, and under her leadership, this program has grown from graduating fifty students per year to more than two hundred per year. Carol has focused on getting at-risk youth back on track. She's done this through providing counseling, intervention and prevention programs, vocational training and employment services.

In 1990 she helped to form the Daly City Youth Health Center. This facility has secured over \$2 million in grant funding and has provided critical services to over seven thousand teens. Since its inception the staff has grown from five to thirty one and includes three paid teen health advocates.

Carol Forest did not stop there. She also established the Tools for Survival Program which gives added support to high school dropouts who are seeking their Graduate Equivalent Degree. Carol has been instrumental in establishing the San Francisco Buddhist Center, where she mentors other women in their search for spiritual development.

Mr. Speaker, Carol Forest is an outstanding woman and I salute her for her compassion, for her vision and for her commitment to making sure every child has a chance. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her on being inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

#### CONGRATULATING STUDENTS OF BYRD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR THEIR ANTI-SMOKING PRO- GRAM

#### HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 23, 1999*

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the students of Byrd Elementary School in Glen Rock, New Jersey, on their efforts to spread the word about the dangers of smoking. The students, assisted by representatives of the New Jersey Breathes program, are conducting a week-long tobacco awareness program, including a school-wide assembly, demonstrations, a poster contest and a composition contest. In addition, the school nurse, Ms. Judy Mullane, has visited each class to discuss smoking and health. The initiatives taken by these students, their teachers and the school district should be commended and mirrored in schools across our nation. As a former teacher myself, I know how extremely important it is to teach children to say no to tobacco. This is a problem that adds thousands of children to the tobacco addiction rolls every day. One of the most effective ways to stop it is through educational initiatives similar to the one we are seeing at Byrd Elementary School.

As a Member of Congress, I have long supported legislation that would limit the spread of tobacco addiction to young people. It is essential that we stand up for the health of our children and help keep them from becoming addicted to the most widespread drug threatening our society—tobacco. The average smoker takes his or her first puff of a cigarette at age 11. If adults choose to smoke, that's a poor decision but one they are allowed to make for themselves. But if children are lured into smoking, that is a moral crime and should be a statutory crime.

Last year, I was a co-sponsor of the NOT for Kids Act, which would raise the price of a pack of cigarettes by \$1.50 over 3 years. Raising the price of cigarettes has a direct and measurable impact on reducing smoking among children. From 1982 to 1992, the price of cigarettes went up 50 percent and the percentage of teen-agers who smoke steadily dropped. Cigarette prices leveled off in 1992 and we've seen an increase since.

I have also supported the national settlement of tobacco lawsuits. First, we must be certain that none of the settlement money is diverted by the federal government. To ensure that, I have co-sponsored H.R. 351. At least part of the money from these settlements should be used for public education programs about the dangers of smoking to young people. These programs should be directed at our young people through their schools so that we can reach them before it is too late. It is far more effective to prevent tobacco addiction than to stop it once it has begun.

It is important to note that the anti-smoking effort in Glen Rock goes beyond the school system. Matthew Kopacki, owner of Rock Ridge Pharmacy, has stopped selling cigarettes in his pharmacy after the death of one of his employees from lung cancer. Mayor Jacquelyn Kort is among those speaking at Byrd Elementary School. And the New Jersey Breathes program is being supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

I would like to ask all my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in thanking Principal Hal Knapp, Mayor Kort, Nurse Mullane, Mr. Kopacki, New Jersey Breathes Director Dr. Larry Downs and all the teachers and other staff involved in this important project. But beyond this group, I want to make a special appeal to the parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, big sisters and brothers and all other adults who play an influential role in the lives of the students of Byrd Elementary School. We all know that children imitate the behavior of adults. Please set a good example for these and all children by not smoking.

#### A FREE PRESS IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE FUTURE FREEDOM IN RUS- SIA—HOUSE CONCURRENT RESO- LUTION 67

#### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 23, 1999*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing House Concurrent Resolution 67, which expresses the sense of the Congress that freedom of the news media and freedom of expression are vital to the development and consolidation of democracy in Russia and that the United States should actively support such freedoms. Joining me in introducing this legislation are the gentleman from New York, Mr. GILMAN, the chairman of the Committee on International Relations; the gentleman from Connecticut, Mr. GEJENSON, the ranking Democratic member of the Committee on International Relations; and the gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. BEREUTER, who is a senior member of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker, we are introducing this legislation today because this afternoon the Prime Minister of Russia, Yevgeny Primakov, arrives in the United States for meetings with Vice President GORE. I doubt, Mr. Speaker, that media freedom in Russia is a leading topic on the agenda for the meetings that are scheduled to take place over the next few days during Prime Minister Primakov's visit to our country. It is an issue, however, that ought to be very high on that agenda.

This resolution expresses our unequivocal belief in the necessity of a free and vibrant news media in Russia. No other institution is as essential to the growth of a democratic society than a press unhindered by pressure from governmental authorities, one with the unquestioned ability to shed light upon the deeds and intentions of those with power and influence. Russia—a nation which has been fighting for the last decade to replace communist oppression with strongly-rooted institutions that respect individual freedoms—must ensure the independence of its media in order to maintain and continue the progress of the last ten years.

The enormity of the Russian reform process is breathtaking, and few can doubt the success of governmental initiatives in drastically improving the human rights situation across this immense nation. I vividly recall my service in this House during the 1980's, when many of us, Republicans and Democrats alike, worked doggedly to oppose the repressive policies and practices of the Soviet regime. We focused attention of the persecution of Nobel

Laureate Andrei Sakharov, of political dissidents locked up in Siberian gulags, and of my friend Natan Sharansky, then an imprisoned refusenik and now a senior minister in the government of Israeli.

Fortunately, those days are behind us. But without the fundamental building blocks of a democratic society, the most notable of which involves freedom of the media and freedom of expression, such advancements may only be temporary. The means of informing the citizenry must not be obstructed. Tyranny knows no better friend than silence.

While the Russian Constitution offers firm guarantees of freedom to the news media, such protections have not prevented numerous violations of this principle. The State Department's Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 1998, which was released just last month, states that during 1998 "federal, regional, and local governments continued to exert pressure on journalists by depriving them of access to information, using accreditation procedures to limit access, removing them from their jobs and bringing libel suits against them, and violating their human rights." Furthermore, the State Department estimates that "between 250 and 300 lawsuits and other legal actions were brought by the Government against journalists and journalistic organizations during the year in response to unfavorable coverage of government policy or operations. . . . In the vast majority of such cases, the Government succeeded in either intimidating or punishing the journalist." Mr. Speaker, this is a dangerous and an ominous precedent, one that could be exploited in the future by autocratic leaders to trample on the liberties of the Russian people.

The threats to the Russian media vary both in their nature and their severity. The State Department identifies an alarming range of specific cases, from the efforts of federal tax authorities to shut down Novaya Gazeta (a Russian daily "known for its relative independence and aggressive reporting on corruption at high levels") to the detention of well-known journalist Irina Chernova, who was allegedly blackmailed by Volgograd police officers. According to the report, the officers were "threatening to release pictures and videotapes of her engaged in sex acts" in response to critical articles about the department's performance. Mr. Speaker, I strongly encourage my colleagues to carefully examine the State Department's report in order to obtain a better understanding of the seriousness and scope of this problem.

My concerns about this serious matter were piqued last week by the Russian Duma's passage of legislation to tighten state control of television and radio. If it becomes law, this bill would provide a government-appointed "supreme council" with unreasonable powers to regulate media content, and the council would have the authority to suspend or revoke a broadcaster's license. I ask my colleagues to join me in urging President Boris Yeltsin to veto this misguided and dangerous initiative.

Mr. Speaker, one of this century's great statesmen, President Dwight David Eisenhower, voiced the following words of reason forty-five years ago when he delivered the commencement address at Dartmouth College: "Don't join the book burners. Don't think you're going to conceal faults by concealing evidence that they ever existed." I sincerely hope that the leaders of Russia will honor this

advice, and that they will recognize that the free exchange of ideas is the foundation of any stable democracy.

It is important that we here in the Congress affirm our commitment to the principles of freedom of expression and freedom of the media. Our resolution does this in clear and unequivocal terms. I invite my colleagues to join in cosponsoring this important legislation, Mr. Speaker, and I ask that the text of the resolution be placed in the RECORD.\*\*\*HD\*\*\*H. Con. Res. 67

Expressing the sense of the Congress that freedom of the news media and freedom of expression are vital to the development and consolidation of democracy in Russia and that the United States should actively support such freedoms.

Whereas the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union has brought new and unique opportunities for democratic political change and the development of market-oriented economic reform in Russia, but the recent economic difficulties in that country have created turbulent and difficult conditions for the Russian people;

Whereas one of the most important means of assuring the continuation of democratic government and the ultimate guarantee of individual freedom and respect for human rights is an open, independent and free news media;

Whereas a free news media can exist only in an environment that is free of state control of the news media, that is free of any form of state censorship or official coercion of any kind, and that is protected and guaranteed by the rule of law;

Whereas freedom of the news media and freedom of expression in Russia today are threatened by elements in the Government, the Duma and elsewhere throughout Russian society which are opposed to freedom of the press and freedom of expression;

Whereas the State Department's Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 1998 notes that "federal, regional, and local governments continued to exert pressure on journalists by depriving them of access to information, using accreditation procedures to limit access, removing them from their jobs and bringing libel suits against them, and violating their human rights";

Whereas the Country Reports further notes that in the past year "between 250 and 300 lawsuits and other legal actions were brought by the Government against journalists and journalistic organizations during the year in response to unfavorable coverage of government policy or operations" and "in the vast majority of such cases, the Government succeeded in either intimidating or punishing the journalist; and

Whereas the Duma recently adopted legislation establishing a "Supreme Council" with a mandate to review the content of television and radio programs and authority to suspend and/or revoke a broadcaster's license: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that—*

(1) a free news media is vital to the development and consolidation of democracy and the development of a civil society in Russia;

(2) freedom of the news media and freedom of expression must be safeguarded against those forces which would limit or suppress these fundamental human rights;

(3) Russian Government leaders, including the President, the Prime Minister, and Members of the Russian Parliament, should fully support freedom of the news media and the right of free expression in Russia;

(4) the United States should actively support freedom of expression and freedom of the news media through our programs of assistance to Russia;

(5) when considering requests by the Russian government for loans or other economic assistance from the International Monetary Fund and other international financial institutions, the United States government should take into account the extent to which Russian government authorities support the full, free, and unfettered freedom of the news media and freedom of expression in deciding whether to support such requests; and

(6) the President and the Secretary of State are requested to convey to appropriate Russian Government officials, including the President, the Prime Minister, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, this expression of the views of the Congress.

ON THE RETIREMENT OF COLONEL  
RICHARD F. ROTHENBURG

**HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 23, 1999*

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I call to your attention the outstanding public service of one of our nation's finest military attorneys and a dear personal friend of mine, Colonel Richard F. Rothenburg the Chief Judge of the United States Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals. On May 1, 1999, Colonel Rothenburg will retire after 30 years of especially distinguished service. Colonel Rothenburg was born in Washington, DC. After graduating from Catonsville High School, Maryland, he received a bachelor of science degree in business administration from the University of Maryland in 1964, and his bachelor of law (LLB) degree in 1967 from the University of Maryland School of Law. The Chief Judge received his commission in 1964 through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Program. After completing his legal studies, Colonel Rothenburg entered active duty in 1967. Colonel Rothenburg was first assigned to Langley Air Force Base, Virginia. In 1969, Colonel Rothenburg was assigned to Headquarters 7th Air Force, Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Republic of Vietnam. In addition to serving as both a prosecutor and defense counsel, Colonel Rothenburg sat as a military trial judge on 27 courts-martial during his tour in Vietnam. Colonel Rothenburg is the only officer still on active duty to have served as an Air Force judge advocate in Vietnam. Colonel Rothenburg's other early assignments included positions as Assistant Staff Judge Advocate at Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland, and Staff Judge Advocate at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico. Colonel Rothenburg attended Air Command and Staff College between 1978 and 1979, then took the reins as Staff Judge Advocate at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia; then the home of Tactical Air Command. Colonel Rothenburg was next selected to serve as a military judge for all air bases in Europe, where he presided at more than 150 felony